
ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD10

SUBJECT: WATER PLAY PARKS AND YOUTH PLAY SPACES
FROM: Director Community Infrastructure
TRIM #: 17/92938

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To respond to Council resolutions from 11 October, 2016 and 13 December, 2016, requesting an investigation into suitable locations and associated costs for the provision of water play parks and youth play spaces.

BACKGROUND

At the Council Meeting of 11 October, 2016, Council resolved to “investigate suitable locations for a water play park and provide associated costs for consideration”.

Further, at the Council Meeting of 13 December, 2016, Council resolved “to investigate appropriate locations for an additional outdoor youth space given the popularity of Birriwa Outdoor Youth Space at Mount Annan and report on associated costs”.

The following information provides the results of both investigations.

MAIN REPORT

At a briefing held 28 March, 2017, Councillors were presented with possible location options for water play parks and youth play spaces.

Consideration was given to 11 sites at various locations throughout the Camden Local Government Area. It is recommended that two water play parks and two youth play spaces be constructed at these four locations.

The 11 sites were assessed against the following criteria:

- parking opportunities;
- adjoining uses;
- the site's physical features;
- availability of services and amenities;
- access to surrounding amenities (e.g. shops);
- proximity to residents;
- current use;
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles; and
- the possible availability of S94 funding.

The sites considered were:

- Harrington Green, Elderslie;
- Onslow Park, Camden;
- Spring Farm Reserve, Spring Farm;
- Kings Bush Reserve, Camden;
- Curry Reserve, Elderslie;
- Sedgewick Reserve, Currans Hill;
- Harrington Park Lakes, Harrington Park;
- Town Park, Oran Park;
- Urban Forest, Narellan;
- Smeaton Reserve, Currans Hill; and
- a new development proposed for Gledswood Hills.

Of these locations, the following four sites have been identified as most appropriate for embellishment due to their alignment with above criteria:

- Town Park, Oran Park – water play park
- Curry Reserve, Elderslie – water play park
- Harrington Park Lakes, Harrington Park – youth play space
- Sedgewick Reserve, Currans Hills – youth play space

An aerial view of each of these locations is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Town Park, Oran Park – Water Play

The Town Park has already incorporated in the design a water feature, which is being designed and constructed under a voluntary planning agreement with Greenfield Development Corporation and Urban Growth. It is proposed that Council provide additional funding to this development to deliver a water play park that would create a distinct recreational place for the Camden Community.

Initial discussions with the developers have been positive and they are very supportive of this type of project. Council would be required to enter into an agreement with Greenfield Developments and Urban Growth to progress the project.

The Town Park has good passive surveillance from Council's administration building and the Oran Park Podium. There is also parking and shade available at this location and amenities will be available on site. The close proximity to Oran Park Shops provides convenience for users.

Curry Reserve, Elderslie – Water Play

This is a relatively level site with a combination of passive parkland features, play area and picnic facilities. The location is close to Camden Town Centre and to the Narellan Town Centre. Curry Reserve also has very good surveillance from Camden Valley Way, and services and amenities are available at this location.

Harrington Park Lake, Harrington Park – Youth Play Space

This site offers access to other recreational activities, such as the Harrington Park Lake walkway, Charker Reserve sporting fields and the Narellan Sports Hub. Self-cleaning amenities will be incorporated into the design. There is parking available, however relocation of the parking may be required to better accommodate the installation of the play space. There will be minimal impact on surrounding residents and it is in close proximity to Harrington Park shopping centre, providing convenience for the users. This location has excellent passive surveillance from the Northern Road.

Sedgewick Reserve, Currans Hill – Youth Play Space

This reserve is located on Curran Hills Drive with good passive surveillance. The site also lends itself to picnic spaces, which will be incorporated into the design, due to the interface with Lake Currans. Although there is on-street parking, additional parking will be considered as part of the overall design. Self-cleaning amenities will also be incorporated into the design. This location is in close proximity to Currans Hill shops, providing convenience for users.

It is proposed that these parks will also incorporate a component of Community Art, where local youth will be consulted and included in the process.

Should Council adopt these locations, the planning, community consultation and construction of these facilities will take approximately 18 months to complete.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The budget to undertake all four projects is \$4,000,000. There is funding available from Section 94 (\$1,500,000) and the Capital Works Reserve (\$2,500,000).

The existing Voluntary Planning Agreement between Camden Council, Greenfield Development Corporation and Urban Growth, already contains a funding component towards the Oran Park project. The funding of an additional \$500,000 provided by Council (included within the \$4,000,000 budget estimate) will enable the embellishment of this project.

Ongoing Costs

The costs associated with future maintenance of these facilities will be \$190,000 in the first year with a recurrent amount of \$160,000 per annum (to be indexed by CPI each year), which will be incorporated into forward planning for future budgets.

CONCLUSION

Council resolved to investigate appropriate locations and associated costs for the installation of water play parks and outdoor youth play space.

The investigation identified four possible locations:

- Town Park, Oran Park – water play park.
- Curry Reserve, Elderslie - water play park.
- Harrington Park Lake, Harrington Park – youth play space.
- Sedgewick Reserve, Currans Hill – youth play space.

It is recommended that Council endorse all four projects and the associated funding, to develop and maintain two water play parks and two youth play spaces.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse Town Park, Oran Park and Curry Reserve, Elderslie for water play parks;**
- ii. endorse Harrington Park Lake, Harrington Park and Sedgewick Reserve, Currans Hill for youth play spaces;**
- iii. allocate \$1,500,000 from S94 for the Curry Reserve water play park, with the additional \$2,500,000 to be funded from the Capital Works Reserve;**
- iv. authorise the General Manager, or his delegate, to negotiate the terms of an appropriate funding agreement with Greenfields Development Corporation / Urban Growth to deliver the water play park at Oran Park Town Park, and have the agreement executed under Council's Power of Attorney;**
- v. allocate \$190,000 in the 2018/2019 financial year and \$160,000 (indexed by CPI), per annum for maintenance of these facilities.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Location Map - Water Play Parks and Youth Play Spaces**

WATER PLAY PARK LOCATIONS

Town Park, Oran Park



Curry Reserve, Elderslie



YOUTH PLAY SPACE LOCATIONS

Harrington Park Lake, Harrington Park



Sedgewick Reserve, Currans Hill

